

Department of Commerce Growth Management Services Planner's Update

A monthly newsletter to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State

July 2012 – ISSUE 58

Welcome to the Planner's Update, an electronic newsletter from the Department of Commerce, Growth Management Services. We send this newsletter monthly to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State.

Please feel free to send us any comments or ideas for how to make this newsletter more useful. You can also use the link below to provide additional names of planners who might like to subscribe.

Please also consider sharing this newsletter with planning commissioners.



Leonard Bauer, AICP
Managing Director
Growth Management Services
Leonard.bauer@commerce.wa.gov

To subscribe to this newsletter please send e-mail to linda.weyl@commerce.wa.gov

IN THIS ISSUE

1. [2012 CERB Competitive Grant Funding](#)
2. [Planning in America Study](#)
3. [Health Impact Assessment Call for Proposals](#)

SCHEDULES

[Regional Planners Forums](#)
[Short Course Schedule](#)

QUICK LINKS

www.commerce.wa.gov/growth
www.washington-apa.org
www.smartgrowth.org
www.planningpaw.org
www.mrsc.org

1. 2012 CERB Competitive Grant Funding

The Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) has announced grant funding opportunities available in late July 2012. Cities, towns, counties, port districts, and innovation partnership zones are eligible to apply for infrastructure construction projects through the "Community Revitalization Grant Program" and the "Economic Development Grant Program." Applications will be available **beginning July 26, 2012** at www.commerce.wa.gov/cerb.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

2. Planning in America Study

A **new poll** from the **American Planning Association (APA)** reaffirms that planners are in fact adding value to their communities and their expertise is well aligned with the priorities of most Americans. After tallying up the responses from nearly 1,300 Americans, the public at large believes that the community planning profession is critical to the rebounding of the economy.

Because planners sit at the forefront of economic development on the community level, it is the decisions that they make which carry heavy consequence as to the success of our cities, communities and neighborhoods.

According to the **Planning in America poll**, two-thirds of Americans believe their community needs more planning to promote economic recovery. In the current landscape where 84% of Americans believe their community is getting worse or staying the same, the top priorities to change that notion include job creation, safety, schools, protecting neighborhoods and water quality.

Mitchell Silver, President of the APA, said that, "67 percent of [respondents believe that] engaging citizens through local planning is essential to rebuilding local economies, creating jobs, and improving people's lives."

This makes perfect sense seeing as 79 percent of poll respondents agreed that their community could benefit from a plan. Even more, this sentiment was derived from the support of both major political parties (two-thirds of Republicans and Independents and three-quarters of Democrats) which is refreshing to hear given the current bi-partisan political climate.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

3. Health Impact Assessment Call for Proposals

The Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts, announced a **call for proposals** for grants to conduct health impact assessments (HIAs). HIAs identify and address the health impacts of decisions in other sectors.

The call for proposals will support two kinds of awards: demonstration project grants of up to \$75,000, which will each fund a single HIA to inform a specific upcoming decision on a proposed policy, program, plan, or project; and HIA program grants of up to \$250,000, which will allow organizations with prior experience to conduct at least two new HIAs and to develop stable HIA programs that endure beyond the conclusion of the grant period.

Three web conferences are scheduled in August for information for applicants. **The first is scheduled for August 1st.**

Health Impact Project

Deadlines:

September 14, 2012 - Program grant brief proposals

September 28, 2012 - Demonstration Project Grant Proposals

[BACK TO TOP](#)